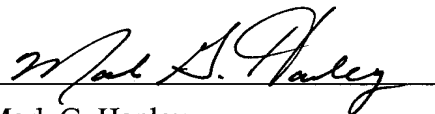


**REMARKS**

The applicant has carefully considered the notice of non-compliance with 37 CFR § 1.173(b) dated December 1, 2004. The applicant respectfully submits herewith an amended claims listing compliant to 37 CFR § 1.173(b). The amended claims listing includes patent claims 1-15 of issued U.S. Patent 6,257,566, amendments to patent claims 1, 11, and 12, and new claims 16-34. Patent claims 1, 11, and 12 have been amended to correct minor typographical errors. New claims 16-34 have been added to clarify the scope of protection sought. The applicant further notes that new claims 16-34 are supported in their entirety by the originally issued patent. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-34 are pending in this application.

The applicant respectfully requests an early favorable action on the merits. If there are any remaining matters that the examiner would like to discuss, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Dated: 2. 1. 05